

Official says most cities unprepared to comply with ADA 911 regulations

Most cities will be unable to comply with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations taking effect Jan. 26, 1992, that require equal access to 911 numbers for all deaf and hard of hearing people, according to Wallace Madewell, president of the National Emergency Numbers Association.

Madewell and other panelists spoke at an "Emergency Access Conference" hosted by Telecommunications for the Deaf, Inc. (TDI) and the United States Telephone Association (USTA) Nov. 21 at the Dirksen Office Building. Issues addressed included local government implementation of the communication regulations, 911 access legal issues, telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) and personal computer (PC) technology, and emergency systems design.

Cities operating 911 centers, also known as Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs), face two main obstacles to meeting the deadline, Madewell said.

First, the federal government has not formulated technical standards governing TDDs, the modems and software used by callers who use PCs, or the equipment used by PSAPs. As a result, cities "do not have standards to rely on when purchasing equipment," Madewell said. Telecommunications via PCs are complicated by the fact that there are

dozens of telecommunications software programs and more than 1,000 ways for different systems to connect.

PSAPs' abilities to handle TDD calls can be hampered because not all TDDs use the same electronic code to send and receive signals. Some TDDs use a code called Baudot, while others use a code named ASCII. Some TDDs can use both codes, but are unable to switch between them automatically. TDDs that are incompatible with a PSAP answering system prevent connection with the 911 operator.

Also, while some PSAP answering systems display a caller's address on a computer screen, most do not, so a caller must give the 911 operator an address—a step that delays emergency response time, said Madewell. Even if the address of the caller is known, some PSAPs may dispatch police when a fire or paramedic response team is needed.

Madewell also explained that cities

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Steel beams are rapidly forming the framework for the new fourth floor at HMB.

Relay established in Maryland

The digits 1-800-735-2258 represent the fruits of a hard-fought battle by Maryland's deaf and hard of hearing citizens to obtain equality in telephone communication.

The number accesses the full-service, around-the-clock Maryland Relay Service, which was enacted at 12:01 a.m. Dec. 1 for the state's estimated 350,000 deaf and hard of hearing citizens.

Delegates Dana Lee Dembrow (D-Montgomery County) and Thomas Hattery (D-Frederick County), who sponsored the legislation, inaugurated the new service with calls to Maryland Association of the Deaf President Harvey Goodstein.

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 requires all states to implement a dual-party telephone relay system by 1993. The 1991 General Assembly authorized Maryland's system and required full statewide implementation by July 1, 1992.

In a press release by Maryland's
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President Jordan returns to classroom teaching

Gallaudet President I. King Jordan has returned to his first love—teaching—as much as his busy schedule allows.

Dr. Jordan, who first served as chairman of the Psychology Department and then as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences before becoming president of the University in 1988, is co-teaching a graduate class entitled "Psychology and Deafness" with Dr. Larry Stewart, an associate professor of psychology.

"I love teaching," said Jordan. "I think of myself as a good teacher and one who prepares carefully and

thoroughly, and I really enjoy the challenge of doing that again."

Jordan said that teaching also allows him to maintain personal contact with faculty members and to interact with students. "As an administrator, the interactions I have with students are different than what happens when you have a class that meets twice a week," he said.

For Jordan, whose responsibilities as president sometimes interfere with his teaching duties, co-teaching is the most feasible way he can get back into the classroom. "The experience has been great," he said. "Larry

Stewart is one of the best teachers I know.

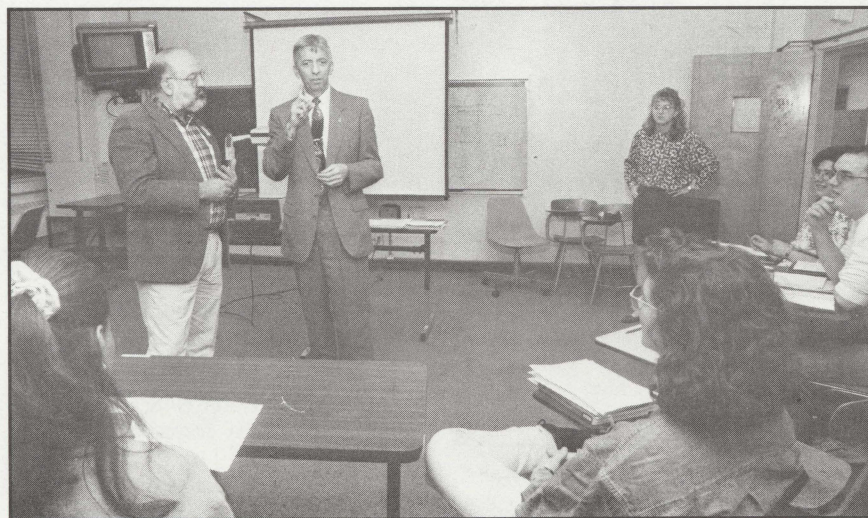
"The class is different than anything I have ever taught (because) the approach is different," said Jordan. The same material is covered by both professors, but each contributes a different perspective. Stewart has a background in counseling and rehabilitation, while Jordan's background is in experimental psychology.

The approach seems to be working well for the students. Sybil Smith said that by having two perspectives, "we see a point we might not have thought of otherwise."

"A wide range of perspectives is discussed, not only that which is the most politically correct on this campus," said Gina Rehkemper.

What is it like having the president of the University teach a class? "I think it is an honor," said Smith. Added Rehkemper, "(Jordan's) viewpoints and ideas, as well as his personality, are a really valuable part of the class."

"Teaching allows me to spend some time working in my discipline and learning new things about the field," said Jordan. "I have learned a lot about psychological theory since I started the course." He added that he spends a lot of time evenings and weekends preparing for class, reading many sources he had never read before.



Gallaudet President I. King Jordan has returned to the classroom part time to co-teach a graduate psychology class with Dr. Larry Stewart (left), associate professor.

Fiscal, technology issues hamper 911

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operate on an annual fiscal budget cycle that begins on July 1, and the initial regulations were not available for comment and evaluation until July 26, 1991. As a result, cities have not budgeted funds for ADA compliance and cannot begin to implement the regulations until July 1992.

Panelist Jerry Snyder, representing Cincinnati Bell, expressed concern about the legal liabilities of cities or telephone companies that cannot comply with the ADA deadline. He urged the Department of Justice to place a

moratorium on enforcement of the regulations until standards are formulated, and that the deaf community be informed that only 911 calls originating from TDDs using Baudot would be handled as of Jan. 26, 1992.

Snyder urged that a committee be established to resolve technical standards problems. "We totally support ADA, but we need standards and regulations that we can meet," he said.

Karen Peltz-Strauss of Gallaudet's National Center for Law and Deafness said, "The Center has received a vast number of complaints concerning 911 TDD access." She noted that it is unlikely that PSAPs or other entities operating emergency numbers will be exempted from the requirement because the requirement may be an "undue burden" that is too expensive or difficult to implement.

Alfred Sonnenstrahl, TDI executive director, said he is "not surprised" cities will not meet the January deadline and that uniform standards making all TDD and PC calls connectable need to be developed as soon as possible. TDI is thinking of involving the Federal Communications Commission and is working with the National Emergency Numbers Association and the Association of Public Safety Communications to develop standards.

TDD relay starts

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Department of General Services, Governor William Donald Schaefer said of the new relay service: "... this fundamental tool in our society has been virtually off-limits to Maryland's hearing and speech-impaired residents. The Maryland Relay Service will now give all Marylanders equal access to millions of telephones throughout the state and around the country."

There is no limit to the length or number of calls that a user may make on the system. Users will not be billed for calls made in their local service area. Long-distance calls will be billed at a special discounted rate to compensate for the additional time needed to place a relay call. Maryland relay users may call all 50 states and place international calls to English and Spanish-speaking people.

A trained operator will connect the parties and relay the conversation between callers. All calls are confidential.

The service is administered by the Department of General Services and operated by Sprint, which was awarded the contract by the Board of Public Works in September. In April 1992, Sprint is expected to open a relay center in Baltimore to house Maryland's operators and equipment. In the meantime, the calls are being routed through Sprint's relay center in Austin, Texas, at no additional charge to Maryland.

For more information, call (410) 225-4650 or (410) 974-2316.



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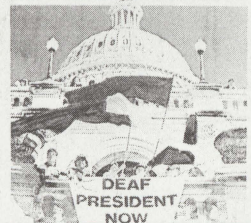
Announcements

New fax numbers are in place for the following offices: Admissions, x5744, Records Management, x5182, Financial Aid x5740, and Recruitment and Enrollment Services, x5663.

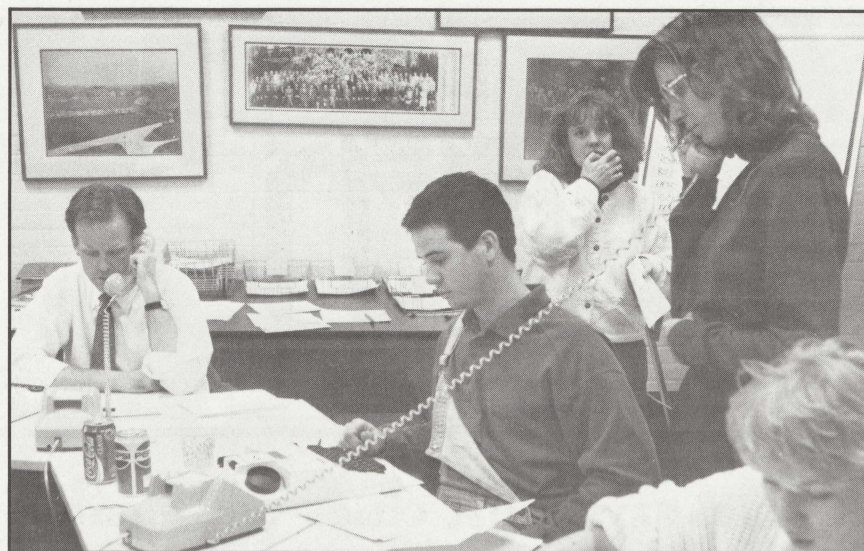
The Department of Physical Education and Recreation's ballroom dance class for faculty and staff is offering a Ballroom Record Party in the Gallaudet Dance Studio on Friday, Dec. 13, from 6:30-8 p.m. Thirty minutes of free mambo and electric slide lessons will precede the dance. The event is open to employees, their spouses, and the public. Refreshments will be provided. For more information, call Sue Gill-Doleac, x5591, or John Schuchman, x5474.

The annual Physical Education and Recreation scholarship holiday flower sale will be Dec. 2-6 and Dec. 9-13 from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. in Ely Center.

THE WEEK THE WORLD HEARD GALLAUDET



The last five framed posters of The Week the World Heard Gallaudet are being offered at the discounted price of \$35 by the Gallaudet University Press, MSSD, Room G-13.



Charles Van Hecke of the Development Office (left) and a team of volunteers help in the Fall TDD-a-thon Nov. 11-21 that netted 577 pledges representing \$36,091.

Classified Ads

Classified ads are printed free for Gallaudet faculty and staff. Ads must be submitted in writing to *On the Green*, MSSD, Room G-37, or E-mail MGMOORE. Off-campus phone numbers must include an area code and whether the number is voice or TDD. Ads may be run two weeks if requested and if space permits. Ads received Dec. 9-16 will be published Jan. 6.

FOR SALE: Rowing machine, portable, good cond., \$30. Call Vickie, x5653.

FOR SALE: VHS tapes: "Robocop I," "Lethal Weapon II," "Fatal Attraction," "Alien Nation," \$20/ea. Call Caroline, x5433, Mon., Tues., Fri. after 5 p.m.

FOR SALE/SUBLET: Brick rancher in Cheverly, Md., 3 BR, 2 BA, living room, dining room, table-space kitchen, screened porch, fireplace, full basement, attic, garage, 1 mi. to Metro, \$134,000. Also will sublet large BR/bath, share other facilities, W/D, DW, Dec-Mar. \$450/mo plus 1/2 util. Call Sue, x5301, or E-mail SRUSSELL.

FOR RENT: Room, Takoma Park, Md., 10 min. to NWC, 30 min. to Kendall Green, \$375/mo. incl. util. Call Tonya, x5383, or Eleanor, (301) 434-0464.

FOR RENT: House to share w/2 kitchens, 2 baths, 2 blocks to Metro, Takoma Park, Md., 10 min. to NWC, \$390/mo., incl. util. Call Tonya, x5383.

FOR SALE: '86 Mercury Lynx, great cond., many new parts, \$2,500. Call Tonya, x5383.

FOR SALE: Long-sleeve wedding gown from Italy w/lace, pearls, 5-ft. train, wedding hat w/white flowers, lace, pearls, 5-ft. veil, \$800/BO. Write Roberts, campus mail Box 1372.

Among Ourselves

Gallaudet President I. King Jordan was the featured speaker at the Association of Late Deafened Adults (ALDA) banquet during its third convention held in Chicago, Ill., Nov. 9-10. Dr. Jordan shared his experiences in learning to accept his deafness. Following the banquet, he was presented the first ALDA award for distinguished achievement. In the future, this annual award to late-deafened individuals will be called the I. King Jordan Award.

Dr. Frank Zieziula, a professor in the Department of Counseling, presented a paper at the ALDA convention in Chicago, Ill., Nov. 9-10. Zieziula presented two papers at the National Conference of Mental Health Workers with People who are Deaf in Northbrook, Ill., Nov. 6-8.

WANTED: Female professional to share townhouse, BR/bath, W/D, near Metro/I-95, Springfield/Franconia, Va., must like pets, \$350/mo. plus util. Call Pam, (703) 274-4738 (TDD) days, or (703) 922-5780 (TDD) eves.

WANTED: Nonsmoker to share townhouse, Bowie, Md., 25-min. drive to Kendall Green, \$275/mo. incl. util. Call (301) 227-6255 days, (301) 227-6258 eves.

FOR RENT: Room w/kitchen privileges, W/D, to nonsmoking female, Gaithersburg, Md., \$300/mo. incl. util., plus deposit. Call (301) 903-3235 days, or (301) 948-1717 eves.

WANTED: Nonsmoking grad. student to share Victorian house, 3 mi. to Kendall Green, no pets, avail. immed., \$200-\$265/mo. plus 1/2 util. Call (301) 779-4465 (V).

CHILDCARE: In my home w/my twins, have references. Call Mr. Bank (301) 459-6647 (V/TDD).

FOR RENT: Condo, Fairfield Harbour Resort, New Bern, N.C., Feb. 7, 8, or 9 to Feb. 14, 15, or 16/neg., 1-BR, fully equipped, whirlpool/hot tub, fireplace; activities include horseback riding, golf, cross country/downhill skiing, boating, tennis, \$620/neg. Call Thomas Corcoran, x5485 or (301) 306-9155, or E-mail TSCORCORAN.

FOR RENT: 1-BR basement apt., carpeted, private entrance, bath, share upstairs kitchen and W/D, 20-min. drive to Kendall Green, avail. now, prefer professional or grad. student, nonsmoker, no pets, must have car, \$350/mo. inc. utilities. Call (301) 937-5281 (TDD) or E-mail 11BHAYES.

WANTED: One or two nonsmoking professional/grad. students to share 3-BR, 1-BA house in Takoma Park w/27-year-old deaf woman, W/D, new W/W carpet, 5-min. walk to Metro, avail. Jan. 1, no pets. Call Will Verbits, x5375, or call (202) 537-3050 (V/TDD).

FOR SALE: Microwave, hardly used, good condition, \$100/BO. Call John, x3113, or E-mail 11JMULLHOLLAN.

WANTED: Rider to share expenses to Minneapolis, Minn., on Dec. 17; need someone to take care of pet fish during Christmas break. E-mail 11MTEETERS.

FOR SALE: Oak antiques: buffet, good cond., \$165/BO; dining table w/claw feet, exc. cond., \$175/BO. Call (301) 773-4727 (TDD), or E-mail SKWOOD.

WANTED: New or used footlockers, trunks, etc. Call Sandi, (301) 731-8780 or E-mail SLATUONAH.

WANTED: Nonsmoking professional/grad. student to share townhouse, room w/bath, no pets, \$350/mo. incl. util., plus telephone. Call (202) 722-5823 (TDD).

FOR SALE: New 35-min. exercise and sign video for ages 7-10, \$22.95. Send check/money order to "Shape Up 'N Sign," Box 3224, Laurel, MD 20708, or E-mail GAOLIVA.